Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-14 PM-03 SP-02 L-01 SAB-01 EB-04 INR-05 /041 W

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R 021604Z JUL 77 FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2617

CONFIDENTIAL PANAMA 4780

LIMDIS

EO 11652: GDS TAGS: PN, PQ, PINT

SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS OF PRC MEETING, JULY 1

- 1. TREATY DEVELOPMENTS: PRIMARY PURPOSE OF SPECIAL PRC MEETING HELD JULY 1 WAS FOR AMBASSADOR TO DEBRIEF GOVERNOR AND CINC ABOUT LATEST NEGOTIATING ROUND DURING WHICH HE WAS ON CONSULTATION IN DEPT. MOST OF MEETING TAKEN UP BY THIS TOPIC WHICH COVERED: (A) NEGOTIATING PROCEDURES; (B) PROGRESS ACHIEVED; (C) UNRESOLVED ISSUES; (D) GOP ECONOMIC ASPIRATION; (E) POSSILBE TIMETABLE FOR COMPLETION OF TREATY AND SUBMISSION TO SENATE. AMBASSADOR REPORTED THAT GOP NEGOTIATORS ARE RETURNING FOR CONSULTATIONS AND TALKS WILL RESUME ON JULY 11.
- 2. CUEVAS EXTRADITION CASE: PRC PRINCIPALS CONCURRED IN TEXT OF INTERIM REPLY TO FOREIGN MINISTER NOTIFYING HIM THAT U.S. MILITARY AUTHORITIES WILL TRY PVT. CUEVAS ON VARIOUS CHARGES, INCLUDING SHOOTING OF GN SOLDIER.
- 3. CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS: GOVERNOR REPORTED PANAMA CANAL SUBCOMMITTEE SCHEDULING HEARINGS JULY 21 AND 25 TO CONSIDER QUESTION OF WHAT ARE "VITAL U.S. INTERESTS IN PANAMA CANAL." CONFIDENTIAL

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HEARINGS WILL FOCUS ON THREE ASPECTS: ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL; DEFENSE AND INTERNATIONAL/POLITICAL. REPORTEDLY, HEARINGS WILL TAKE FORM OF ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS WITH SUBCOMMITTEE.

4. JULY 4 DEMONSTRATIONS: PRC PRINCIPALS DISCUSSED INTELLIGENCE REPORTS THAT FER STUDENTS PLANNING DEMONSTRATIONS AT SHALER TRIANGLE ON JULY 4. THERE IS CONCERN STUDENTS MAY ATTEMPT

PULL DOWN U.S. FLAG AGAIN. GN HAS INDICATED IT WILL PREVENT
MAJOR INCURSION INTO CZ (E.G., HOUSING AREAS) BUT WILL NOT
INTERVENE FOR "MINOR" CAUSE (E.G. FLAG INCIDENT).

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